

DECISION RECORD

Douglas-fir Pruning in Pre-commercially Thinned Plantations and Conifer Plantations
which have not received a Pre-commercial Thinning Treatment

Decision

It is my decision to accept the Proposed Action as described in EA OR120-94-12 and DNA No.16 to prune conifers in 895 acres of pre-commercially thinned stands and 191 acres of un-thinned plantations. Some of these plantations have remained un-thinned due to concerns of damage incurred from bears after thinning. Pruning of some plantations with bear damage would be done in an effort to reduce ongoing peeling and girdling of Douglas-fir trees.

The mitigation measures listed in the original EA will be implemented and included the following requirements:

- Pruning will be done in the Fall and would take place outside nesting seasons for Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet.
- Leave every 10th tree left un-pruned allowing perches for avian species.
- Only pole pruners, hand saws, pruning knives and/or loppers would be allowed to remove limbs.
- Pruning height will leave approximately 50% live crown.

No other measures were identified for this DNA from the various Resource Specialist. DNA No.16 contains site specific information and a description of project specifications which have been reviewed by affected Resource Specialists.

Rationale

A careful review by the Myrtlewood Field Office Interdisciplinary Team as listed in DNA No.16 has determined that all issues raised in the EA have been adequately addressed. Upon the completion of the public protest period, should no protests arise this decision will be implemented. The project should show a long term economic benefit to the public, as well as benefits to forest health, visual quality and foraging opportunities to some wildlife species.

<u>/s/ Chris Church</u>	<u>7-8-04</u>
NRSA	Date
<u>/s/ Terri Colby</u>	<u>7-8-04</u>
NRSA	Date
<u>/s/ Gregg Nelson</u>	<u>7-8-04</u>
NRSA	Date
<u>/s/ Carl Linderman</u>	<u>7-8-04</u>
Acting Myrtlewood Field Manager	Date